

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Governor to designate November as COPD awareness month.

BECKER, GARD, MILLER

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Governor to designate November as COPD awareness month.

Whereas, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term used to describe airflow obstruction that is associated mainly with emphysema and chronic bronchitis;

Whereas, COPD affects an estimated 24 million people and kills more than 120,000 Americans every year. On average, one person dies from COPD every four minutes, an alarming statistic for a disease many have not learned about;

Whereas, In 2010, the National Center for Health Statistics released a report stating that in 2008 COPD became the third leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas, Pulmonary experts predict that, by the year 2020, COPD will become the third leading cause of death worldwide;

Whereas, COPD currently accounts for 1.5 million emergency room visits, 726,000 hospitalizations, and 8 million physician office and hospital outpatient visits, all of which are a detriment to the U.S. economy; COPD costs the nation an

2012

RR 3531/DI dj+



estimated \$42.6 billion in direct and indirect medical costs annually;

Whereas, Research has identified a hereditary protein deficiency called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin; people with this deficiency tend to develop COPD, even without exposure to smoking or environmental triggers;

Whereas, Recently, the death rate for women with COPD has surpassed the death rate of men with COPD. Women over the age of 40 are the fastest-growing segment of the population developing this irreversible disease, due in large part to the equalization of opportunities for men and women to smoke over the past several generations;

Whereas, There is currently no cure for COPD. Spirometry testing and medical treatments exist to address symptom relief and possibly slow the progression of the disease; and

Whereas, Until there is a cure, the best approaches to preventing COPD and its considerable health, societal, and mortality impacts lie with education, awareness, and expanded delivery of detection and management protocols: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. The Indiana Senate urges the Governor to designate
2 the month of November as COPD Awareness Month in the state of
3 Indiana in recognition of this deadly disease and its effects on the
4 citizens of this state.

5 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
6 transmit a copy of this Resolution to the American Lung Association.

